

Bowker, A. H.



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

April 9, 1979

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Chancellor Albert H. Bowker
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

Dear Al:

I understand that you might have the opportunity to recruit Professor Herman Witkin as a Distinguished Visiting Professor in Psychology for a quarter in the next academic year.

I have known Dr. Witkin personally and professionally for at least 20 years and have the highest regard for his accomplishments and presence as an investigator, teacher, colleague, and friend. He has an outstanding reputation for his work in psychological differentiation, personality and cognition, and recently more especially in cross cultural research. The contribution with which I am most familiar, and that intimately, is his work on the XYY chromosome syndrome (Science 193:547, 1976). This work which was laborious, and meticulously designed and executed has done more than any other to clear up the controversy that has surrounded the XYY effect: and of course it points to still further questions that need to be explored but which now rests on a critical scientific basis.

I know that the value of a visiting appointment rests as much on the collegial attributes of the appointee as on his scientific skill and here Hy would be most admirable. He relates beautifully to every element of the academic structure and I am sure that Berkeley would be greatly enriched for whatever time you can attract him for. It is not an empty remark that I envy you the opportunity of gaining so much for a very modest investment; and I would not hesitate to do the same here if I had the opportunity.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg